

\$12,000 Precious Jewels Stolen Here

CIVIC LEADER ENDORSES JOINT CITY-SCHOOL RECREATION PLAN

TORRANCE PRESS

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Chamber President Sanctions Program

A drive to establish a school-administered, city-financed recreation program, that would provide adequate after-school, week-end and summer recreation for school children is gaining wide support as more and more civic leaders and city officials express favor of the idea.

Declaring that taxpayers' money is being wasted by the existing recreation system, which promotes duplication of facilities, a group of recreation-minded, civic conscious citizens, headed by Arthur Sues, is asking that the school board aid in lining up a joint program, such as the Long Beach System, which has been used with success for more than 25 years.

Severe Problem
Robert I. Plomert Jr., president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and prominent industrial tax expert, this week asserted that a co-ordinated city and school recreation program was the answer to the recreation problems that has severely afflicted this city.

In a statement to the Press he said that to provide a recreation program that will really serve the people, particularly Torrance youngsters, co-operation between both agencies is necessary.

Commissioner
Plomert revealed that he has asked Darwin Parrish, chairman of the recreation commission, to appear before the Industries Tax Committee, composed of tax representatives of all major industries here, to outline the needs of this city recreation-wise.

In spearheading the drive for a school administered program, Sues, who has spent years working with recreation, stated that because recreation costs money but does not produce any the program has been kicked around very badly by the city.

"Crime" Told
This, he declared is a crime against Torrance children.

The fact must be faced, he said, that recreation, and a better program than we now have, must be provided, or juvenile delinquency in this city will continue its dangerous upward climb.

Moose Schedules Dinner Dance
The regular dinner-dance of the Torrance Moose Lodge will be held this Saturday evening, March 21, at 6 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 1744 Carson st., it was announced today by James Stiles, ways and means chairman.

The dinner, which features fried chicken and is open to the public, will be followed by a free dance, he said.

Danny Hutchison will act as chef and be in charge of food preparation and serving.

Retail Clerks DISPUTE SPLITS UNION

Members of Retail Clerks Local 905, A. F. L., tonight will hear and perhaps have a chance to rule on explosive charges which have ripped the local union for the first time in its 20 years of existence.

A. B. Crossler, international vice president of Retail Clerks International Association, sent out notices of the meeting, and meanwhile, the affairs of the local are in the hands of Herschel Womack, international deputy supervisor. The meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in Yugoslav hall, San Pedro.

Intervention
Crossler said an unnamed group within the union had brought the dispute to the attention of the international office and asked that the international intercede, which it has done.

"In the best interests of the entire Union membership, we deemed it advisable to place the affairs of (Continued on Page 7)

GOP Plans Precinct Organization

Members of the Republican Central Committee of Los Angeles County from the 17th Congressional District will begin planning precinct organization for the district at a dinner to be held in the Lone Pine Inn, Wilmington, next Thursday evening, according to Frank S. Selover, chairman of the Central Committee of the 68th Assembly District.

Central Committee members and their alternates from the 46th, 67th and 68th Assembly Districts, which comprise the 17th Congressional District, will attend.

Jack Drown, newly elected chairman of the 17th District, said that the meeting will involve appointment of precinct chairmen and a table of organization by which the work of lining up the vote in future elections will be carried down to every home.

CITY OFFICIAL WARNS OIL WELL OPERATORS TO FENCE PUMPS NOW

Strides Made in Cleanup

Representatives of 31 companies or individuals owning and operating oil wells in this city were told that a safety guard fence around all oil pumps were absolutely essential to the welfare of Torrance children by George Powell, assistant director of civil defense.

Pointing out that there is a move afoot to pass legislation that will compel well owners to

erect such a fence, Powell urged the oil men to take steps on their own initiative to provide fences or safety guards around the wells.

Campaign Success
A program to abate hazards in the Torrance oil field was begun by the city early this month following an editorial campaign by this newspaper.

The improvement program was speeded up when a seven-year-old Torrance boy fell into an oil pump nearly three weeks ago badly injuring one of his legs.

Powell was delegated by the City Council to make a complete inspection survey of conditions in the Torrance oil field and to report any violations of existing ordinances.

Notices Sent
The survey is now nearing completion and notices are being sent to well owners who are violating city laws, according to Powell. He reported this week that as (Continued on Page 7)



ACCIDENT AHEAD—Three Torrance youngsters unconcernedly play around an operating oil well, unaware of the tremendous danger that exists on the machine. Recently a seven-year-old boy was badly injured playing about an oil pump just as these children are doing. Unless the city passes legislation demanding steel safety fences around these wells, more accidents of this nature are bound to occur.

CONSTRUCTION BOOMING

Issue \$200,000 In Permits Here Daily

With only half the month of March gone, the city has already issued almost \$3,500,000 worth of building permits this month, Mrs. E. Coles, of the city building dept., reported Tuesday. More than \$1,000,000 in permits were issued this week alone.

An average of \$200,000 worth of permits for construction here have gone over the counter each day during March, she said.

This figure, coupled with the \$3,700,000 in permits issued during the first two months of the year, indicates that nearly \$8,000,000 worth of permits will be issued during the first quarter of 1953.

If the pace set already this year continues, there is every indication that last year's record of \$18,000,000 will be well surpassed, building dept. officials declare.

During the past week, three large blocks of permits were granted. Siemon and Laramore will build 109 homes with attached garages in North Torrance. These homes are valued at \$7,000 each.

A second block of permits went to Victoria Enterprises, who will build 33 homes in the southwest section. Value of this subdivision has been set at \$277,500.

Another large group of permits issued last week were taken out by the Torrance Unified School District for the Evelyn Carr School in North Torrance. These permits totaled \$287,492.

National Supply Co. Gets Army Production Award

The Army Ordnance Corps today delivered a special commendation to National Supply Company, Torrance, in recognition of the firm's accomplishments in the production of artillery gun forgings at a voluntarily reduced price. Col. W. S. Broberg, Chief of the Los Angeles Army Ordnance District, made the presentation to John D. Spalding, works manager, before an assemblage of company employees and union representatives.

The commendation issued by Maj. Gen. E. L. Ford, Army Chief of Ordnance, said that a recent inspection of Army contracts showed the Torrance plant of National Supply "consistently maintained an enviable record of economical operation."

Dollars Saved
"It was further shown," Gen. Ford wrote, "that as a result of increased efficiency of operation and production know-how, price reductions were made and passed on to the Government with considerable savings to the taxpayer." He added,

"We appreciate not only the outstanding performance in this particular field by your company but the high standard of business ethics displayed in dealing with the Government."

"The review of these contracts was highly commendatory of your organization and it is my desire to pass this commendation on to you, together with my personal appreciation of your efforts and accomplishments in improving the quality and reducing costs for Ordnance items used by our Armed Services."

Col. Richard J. Crane, Commanding Officer of Watervliet Arsenal, New York, also praised the production record achieved by National Supply.

National Supply is now working on Army Ordnance contracts valued at \$3,600,000.00 for the production of gun forgings and breech rings. The firm also achieved an outstanding production record in World War II when it won 5 Army-Navy "E" Awards.

Thief Takes Car, Gets Gems, Too

The thief who absconded with an expensive late model automobile from the Hollywood Riviera district last Sunday night may not know it but there was more than \$12,000 worth of precious jewelry in the glove compartment of the car.

DOMINGUEZ WATER RATE INCREASE HIT

Officers and members of the Keystone Civic Betterment Association this week officially protested a requested water rate increase by the Dominguez Water Company.

The Dominguez Company, which serves most of the Keystone area with water, has asked the State Public Utilities Commission for a rate increase.

Elmer R. Clark, president pro tem of the Keystone civic group, stated that the organization would ask the commission to hold up action on the request until a thorough investigation of the situation could be made.

He declared the civic betterment group had retained an attorney to compile the data required to determine the need for a rate increase.

Clark urged all residents of Keystone to either appear at the hearing, slated for March 24, or to write a letter of protest to the commission.

The next meeting of the organization will be held on Monday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the Keystone Baptist Church, 157 West 220th St., he said.

Army Major James C. Barrett, of 456 Palos Verdes Parkway, reported to Torrance police Monday that someone had stolen his 1953 automobile some time Sunday night from in front of the apartment building where he resides with his wife.

Car Ransacked

The thief apparently ransacked the car before driving off in it, according to Police Captain Ernest Ashton, who reported that various articles and papers from the car had been strewn about the street.

He theorized that the thief had not discovered the jewels, which were in a case locked in the glove compartment.

Jewels Listed

Among the collection of jewels was a platinum ring worth \$1500, a gold bracelet studded with diamonds, valued at \$1000, matching earrings also valued at \$1000, and other jewels totaling more than \$12,000.

The jewels are insured, according to Major Barrett, who stated that he obtained the expensive adornments while serving with the Army in Japan. He is now stationed at Fort MacArthur.

According to Captain Ashton Major Barrett first reported the loss of the car, and later realized that the gems had been left overnight in the glove compartment.

Enter Final Week of Press Photo Contest

All amateur photographers interested in trying for prizes in the First Annual Torrance Press Amateur Photography Contest are urged to get their favorite snapshot or photograph in for judging in the last week of the contest.

Deadline for the last of the six weekly contests is next Monday at 5 p.m.

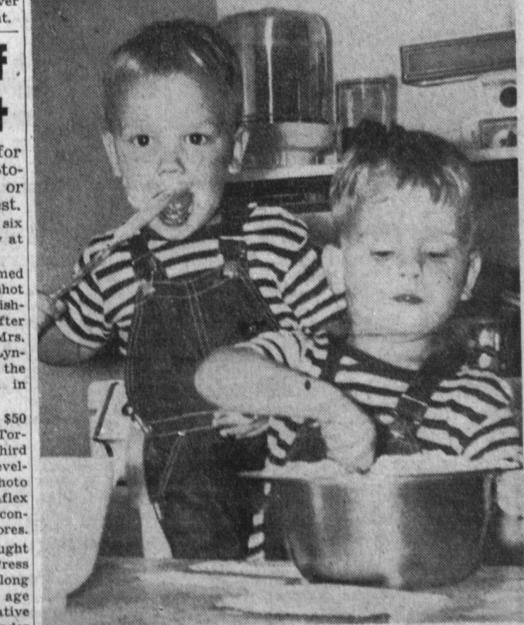
The fifth finalist was named this week. A flash snapshot showing two little brothers polishing off the frosting pan after mother baked a cake made Mrs. Warren Naslund, of 21317 Lynton ave., eligible for one of the three valuable prizes offered in the competition.

First prize in the contest is \$50 in cash to be awarded by the Torrance Press. Second and third prizes are a complete home developing outfit, donated by A-1 Photo Supplies, and an Eastman Duaflex camera and six rolls of film, contributed by McCown Drug Stores.

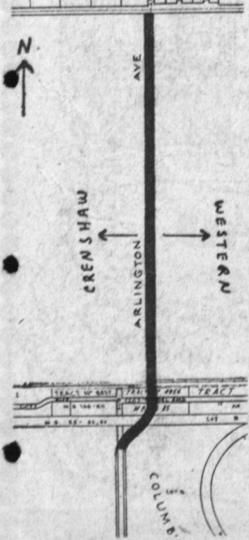
Entries may either be brought or mailed to the Torrance Press office, 1406 Cravens ave., along with the name, address and age of the entrant. Include negative with pictures that measure under 5 by 7 inches.

Judges in the contest are Miss Pat Roden, assistant editor of the Torrance Press; James Giacalone, manager of A-1 Photo Supplies, and Harry Petro, manager of McCown Drugs.

To place your ad just call Torrance 1185.



MIGHTY GOOD FROSTIN', MOM—Danny and David Naslund didn't stop licking the icing pan for even a moment when their mother, Mrs. Warren Naslund, of 21317 Lynton ave., snapped this picture with an Eastman Duaflex camera. The occasion was Danny's recent second birthday. Mrs. Naslund was named the fifth finalist in the First Annual Torrance Press Amateur Photography Contest. The last of the six weekly contests will be held next week. Judging for first, second and third prizes will be held the following week.



PROPOSED EXTENSION—City engineering dept. this week released the above map showing the route of the proposed extension of Arlington ave. The dept. is drawing up final plans for the work, and expects to have cost estimates ready very soon. (See story on Page 2.)